

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*



February 20, 1961

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.



Illustration by John C. Moore
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Readers' Response

I wish I could find words to express my appreciation for the December 19 issue of the *Evangel*. I feel that it is the best Christmas issue ever printed. Every sermon had a real message. I appreciate it because you left Santa Claus out and presented Christ our Saviour. Thank you again, everyone from the Editor to the mailing department.

—JAMES E. OWENS

Aynor, S. C.

— — —

I would like to tell you how much I appreciate the *Evangel*. Your timely editorials have always been inspiring to me. The one I just read today "The Rudder and the Rock" is especially good.

—T. R. MORSE

Editor, Editorial Evangelica
San Antonio, Tex.

— — —

I am writing to let you know how much I enjoyed the December 12 issue of the *Church of God Evangel*, especially the article on page 5, "The Lord's Day—the End of Time" by Albert H. Batts of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

—ROY J. GIVENS, SR.

Editor, *The Herald of Hope*
Dallas, Texas

— — —

I am always glad to see your editorials in the *Evangel* and I enjoy them very much. The *Evangel* is the best it has ever been since I have been a reader. I am sure that it is doing a great work as it goes forth into the various fields, many times into fields that no minister or Christian worker is privileged to reach.

—R. H. SUMNER

Pastor
Easton, Md.

— — —

May I congratulate you again on your fine work as Editor-in-Chief of our publications. I enjoy reading the *Evangel* more at the present than I have at any time since becoming a subscriber, March 31, 1934. I appreciate the fine articles from other noted writers as well as the fine articles from our own people. I was informed of your planning to give more space to our National Committee of Evangelism and I believe this will be a great step forward for our church.

—B. E. ELLIS

Overseer of South Carolina
Mauldin, S. C.

COVER PICTURE

Washington praying at Valley Forge. From an old engraving by John C. McRae.

—Photograph by H. Armstrong Roberts

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*

Official Voice of the Church of God

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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Editorial

WHEN UP SEEMS DOWN!

AN UNUSUAL THING happened to me several years ago while driving across the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming. It was a beautiful morning, and I had no dread of driving over the mountains, even though the highways were notoriously bad and at that time were filled with shepherds taking their sheep to summer pasturage in the protected valleys of the mountains.

After about an hour of steep climbing and tortuous winding, with high peaks towering on every side of me, I topped a crest and started down grade. I relaxed my foot on the accelerator, but, instead of rolling freely down the gentle slope, the car began to labor mightily. Even giving the car more gas did not stop the struggle altogether. I feared my fuel pump had failed, and I stopped the car to investigate. The fuel pump was working perfectly, so I put the car in gear again with the intention of easing on down the slope, dreading the high mountains that were still before me. Again the car refused to roll, and I had to press the gas pedal nearly to the floorboard in order to keep it moving at all.

The truth slowly broke upon me, for I had heard other drivers tell of similar experiences, but I was still somewhat doubtful because the phenomenon had never happened to me before. I was victim of an optical illusion. Actually I was still going *up* the mountain, and very sharply up at that; the angles of the surrounding peaks only gave the impression that the road was going down grade. I tried every way possible to see it in its true perspective, but never could. It simply seemed that we should be going downhill, and no way that I viewed it made it look any different; yet common sense taught me that I had only looked at the angles of the mountains so long that I could not tell whether I was going uphill or downhill.

Those who have been victims of similar optical illusions know what an uncanny feeling this gives you. Those who have spent much time in rugged mountainous country know the phenomena of seeing streams apparently flow uphill, and of laboring strenuously in order to walk what seems to be downhill. The explanation is simple: an illusion is created by the contrast between the steep and rugged terrain and the gentler slopes.

WHAT IS ONLY an amusing trick on the eyes in the realm of the physical, however, becomes a real tragedy in the realm of the spiritual. It is a

serious thing when Christian people relax in their efforts or their living under the illusion that they have crossed the top and are ready to coast downhill. Many who have started out in the spiritual life have fallen prey to this illusion only to struggle, sputter, and stall. If you think you have reached the top, you are the victim of a trick on your mind. You have been made peaceful by an illusion, and deception has caused you to congratulate yourself prematurely.

We have not reached the top of the mountain of spiritual experience. We may have prayed at the altar until the assurance that our sins are forgiven has been ours and until we are confident that we are sanctified by and to Him who sanctifieth us. We may have prayed until we have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and rejoiced wonderfully in His blessed presence. Even though we have done this, we have no right to conclude that we are now finished products of His grace and justified in believing that we have passed the peak of spiritual blessedness and can now coast downhill. There is more, much more, to follow if we are willing to continue our climb. It is callow for us to suppose that we can, in the space of a few weeks or months, or even years, receive or even comprehend the measureless spiritual depth of God's grace.

We urge those who are converted to continue in their spiritual quest until they have attained the pinnacle of the Holy Ghost baptism, and once they receive this experience we conclude that they have received the ultimate of spiritual experience. The Holy Ghost baptism is not the end, but only the beginning. It is not the culmination of spirituality, for the Holy Spirit is our companion who will guide us, when He has come, into the profound riches of God's fellowship with man (John 16:13). Spiritually, most of us have not reached the high mountains, but are still in the foothills—yet some have the tragic illusion that they have reached the summit.

We are still going uphill in the work of evangelism. At times we may be tempted to feel pretty good when we see the increase of souls and appearance of new or stronger churches in many places. In reality, however, we have only scratched the surface—and that scratch, when viewed in proportion to the unsaved masses, is so tiny that it is almost indiscernable. With us there can be no resting on our laurels, for as yet there have been no laurels won. We have only begun the task of getting the full gospel to the people,



INTERCHURCH COMMISSION MEETS

PICTURED ABOVE is the joint Study Commission of the Church of God and the Pentecostal Holiness Church. This Commission met in Franklin Springs, Georgia, on December 6 for further discussion of the many similarities and mutual interests of the two groups.

From the meeting came the fol-

lowing resolution:

"We look with favor upon the interchange of full-time camp meeting or conference speakers in places where the situation is desirable and favorable."

Members of the Commission are—seated (left to right): Charles W. Conn, W. H. Turner, James A. Cross, J. A. Synan, Byon A. Jones, R. O.

Corvin; standing (left to right): W. Eddie Morris, Earl P. Paulk, Sr., A. M. Phillips, Houston R. Morehead.

Signed:

*James A. Cross, Chairman
J. A. Synan, Chairman
R. O. Corvin, Secretary
Charles W. Conn, Secretary*

and any thought otherwise is only a cruel and deadening illusion. When we realize that there are more than 7,500,000 homes in the U.S.A. without a Bible, and that there are still thousands of adult Americans who have never heard the name of Jesus Christ except as an oath, we can realize that the real mountains are ahead of us. If thousands have never heard the name of Jesus Christ, and if millions do not own the Word of God, think then of the numberless thousands who have not yet heard of spiritual holiness. That they can lead a sanctified and Holy-Ghost-filled life is foreign and unthinkable to them. If you are weary already in the task of telling them, you should seek new strength; because we have only crossed a few little foothills, and the high mountains of our labor lie before us.

IT IS ONLY AN ILLUSION if we think we have passed the crest in the cause of missions. We may have given to missions until it is burdensome to think of giving more. You cannot coast this year because you think you passed the crest last year. You cannot relax now and find consolation in what you have done in the past. So little is that which we have

done that it is hardly noticeable when compared to the masses who have not yet been reached for Christ. We may feel happy about past victories for Christ in foreign missions, but it is a deceptive illusion to think that the hardest part of the battle is over. Any victory we may have won for Christ hitherto is only a minute matter and indicates only that we have found the way. The bulk of the way, the strenuous part of the way, is before us. We have just begun to move.

You may relax your efforts because it appears to you that you are coasting downhill now, but you will not do so for long. Soon you must realize that your mind is playing tricks on you, or else you will falter to a stop. It is an amusing trick on the mind when you lose your perspective in the mountains, but it is a soul disaster when you lose your perspective in the life and labor of the Lord. You are not going downhill. You have just begun to climb.

Charles W. Conn



Church of God Missions Department
L. H. Aultman, Executive Missions Secretary

The Bogota Campaign

By Paul Childers

Returned Missionary from Colombia

QUITE UNEXPECTEDLY, a young evangelist, Eugene Jimenez, appeared in Bogota stating that God had laid on his heart to come to Colombia for a revival campaign. He had been guest speaker for the Church of God convention in Chucaca, Guatemala, and though he was practically unknown to us, this was recommendation enough for me to approve him. We began to make plans for a united effort among all the evangelical churches in Bogota, but it became evident that the meeting was more Pentecostal than interdenominational. Some of the pastors began to drop out because they were afraid they would be branded Pentecostal. They really believed that without their support we would never be able to do anything since they have run things their way for years.

Our first problem was getting a building. We succeeded in renting one of the largest buildings of its kind in all South America. It was 300 feet long and 180 feet wide, built with self-supporting arches without a post or anything inside to obstruct the view. All our plans were carried out with the utmost

secrecy to keep the Catholic Church from learning of the meeting, but in spite of this precaution the news leaked out and opposition began on every hand. The archbishop publicly stated to the press that the meeting would never begin. The fact that the Protestants had dared to do such a thing was more than he could understand.

The archbishop wrote a long letter to the press stating that he certainly was not going to permit any such thing to occur in Bogota, but as powerful as he is (even the President takes orders from him) he was helpless to halt the work of the Lord. Every day that passed he lost more face since he had publicly stated what he was going to do. He was unable to accomplish his purpose.

Being unable to take away the building, he leveled his attacks against the evangelist and sent groups of hoodlums and groups of seminary students to cause disturbance. Two nights we were forced to smuggle the evangelist out, wrapped in a rug and lying down in the back of the station wagon with eight or ten more people jammed in around him so that only

a close search would have revealed his presence.

God began to work upon the hearts of those in power. One of the cabinet members requested the evangelist to come and pray for an invalid son. Many of the employees in the immigration department began coming to the meeting and requested Bibles and New Testaments. The wife of one of the Secret Service men who had arrested the evangelist was healed of a head condition and publicly gave her testimony of what the Lord had done. Countless things took place to disturb and disrupt the campaign, but for some reason God gave us a sixth sense so we could stay one jump ahead of the devil.

As an example, one Saturday I felt strangely impressed to start up the little emergency electric light plant I have to see if it was in working order (it had not been used in months). I cleaned it and filled it with gasoline and ran it for about an hour. The next day I arrived early to the service and found everything in good order, but about ten minutes before service the current went off in the auditorium. I checked at the substation that supplies the power for this area. Someone had pulled the master switch and locked it and had disappeared with the keys. They knew that without the public address system it would be impossible to have a service where the vast multitude of people could hear. They never believed that it would be possible to round up an emergency generator on such short notice. The total delay to the meeting was not over twenty minutes, and with the help of some of the brethren we had a sound system in full operation and conducted a normal service. When they saw that we were prepared for any eventuality, they came and turned the lights back on. Once again the archbishop was frustrated in his attempt to disrupt the services.

Only eternity will tell how much good was accomplished, but we believe during those two months more people heard the gospel than in all the history of Colombia. Many accepted the Lord and received healing for their bodies.

Are Our Servicemen Forgotten?

By H. D. Williams

Assistant General Overseer



RECENTLY, I received a letter from a young serviceman saying, "My membership is at the Greenbush Church of God in Ohio, but since I joined the Marines on July 6, 1959, I have gotten away from God. On September 4, 1960, God gave me one more chance to serve Him. He saved me and gave me a great determination to serve Him with all my soul. I thank God for being so good to me and for taking all my burdens away. I have no fear of getting killed in combat if we go to war for I know God has forgiven me of all things and I'm ready to die if it's His will. I am attending the Church of God here where I am stationed in California. The pastor here is truly a good man of God. He's taken me into his home many times so that I

could serve God day after day with him and the other church members."

Another young man writes, "I certainly do appreciate the warm and generous letter you sent me. A letter like that makes a man in the service feel that he is not alone. I let several of my friends read it and also gave them your address. I am lucky enough to get a letter from home every day, but there are hundreds here that don't get anything for months."

If a letter from a stranger makes a young man so far from home feel he is not alone, think how much he would appreciate a letter from his pastor or Sunday School teacher. It is hard to realize that a freedom loving people would neglect to write their son, brother, sister or companion. It is possible that

we who pay so little for our many blessings forget those who are stationed at lonely outposts around the world and are subject to giving their lives to secure our freedom. Some time ago I sent a letter to our pastors requesting the names and addresses of the young men and women of their churches and communities who are serving with the military forces of our country. The response has been very good. However, I do not believe that all of our pastors have given this matter their personal attention.

The following testimonies from some of our young men and women reflect their faith in God and love for souls of men:

"First, let me say how pleased I was to receive your letter recently of such encouragement. To us service personnel and our families who

PRINTED
PAGES
EVERYWHERE

By Bob Strickland

Pioneers for Christ Group Leader
of Literature Distribution



LEE COLLEGE

FEW PEOPLE realize the importance of distributing Christian literature; yet this is the very means Communism has used to outreach Christianity.

Christian literature is the speaking of God's Word through the printed page. Martin Luther took hold of the printing press and brought about the Reformation. No wonder the monks said: "If we do not put down this printing press, it will put us down."

The main purpose of Christian literature is to direct men, women, boys, and girls to Jesus Christ. It also furnishes the Christian with wholesome reading for a broader understanding and stronger spiritual life. It takes pennies to win a soul with literature.

Pieces of literature, including gospel tracts, *The Lighted Pathway*, and the *Evangel*, are distributed by the Pioneers for Christ by three methods: (1) in tract brigades, during which tracts are given to individuals, usually in downtown areas, while students endeavor to witness and win them for Christ; (2) in individual witnessing and on "invasions," where the workers use these tracts as "ice-breakers" to open the conversation leading toward salvation; (3) in bus and train stations, barbershops, wash-erterias, physicians' offices, and hotel lobbies, where *Evangel*s and *Lighted Pathways* are placed in convenient places with the tracts entitled "The Way of Salvation,"

"You Are Now Saved," and "After You Believe" stapled in the backs of these two publications. Waiting areas are places where people are most likely to find spare time and boredom and will welcome something to read.

God has promised that His Word would not return unto Him void, but would accomplish that which He pleased (Isaiah 55:11). Statistics prove that from the distribution of *The Lighted Pathways*, souls are saved.

There is little personal glory in this type of work, for a very few, if any, will pat a Christian on the back for distributing Christian literature. Rewards for this ministry will be given in heaven.

are away from the closeness and warmth of the local church it is a wonderful reassurance to know that our Christian brethren back home are holding us up before the Lord in prayer. However, all is not lost by coming overseas to a nation that has long held Catholicism in such a high degree. We Pentecostal people of the Evreux community have begun a work for God that has already reaped rewards in souls of the harvest. Being a Church of God minister, I have undertaken the pastorate of the Church of God mission (English speaking), Evreux, France. Our Church is limited, we realize, only by our ability and enthusiasm to work for Christ even though we are thousands of miles from home."

Another young man writes, "I received your nice letter last week.

I was very happy to hear from you. Since the Army sent me to Germany this past July, I haven't had the chance to attend the Church of God. I would be very happy if you would find for me a Church of God nearest my post."

I am sending our pastors a brochure written for the purpose of encouraging them to give attention to the serviceman before he leaves for service, while he is in service, when he is home on furlough and after his discharge. Someone may ask, "Can the local church assist in getting the servicemen off the 'forgotten list'?" Yes, you can send me the names and addresses of servicemen from your church and community so that I can write to them. You can make a poster with the names of servicemen and put it in church

for prayer; or you can print servicemen's names on the church bulletin. The pastor could represent the church in corresponding with the servicemen. The Y.P.E. president and Sunday School teacher should write them. The Sunday School class of the boy or girl could send birthday cards. The Y.P.E. could give a going away gift for the young man or lady leaving for military service—a Bible or New Testament would be a good gift. Some responsible person could keep the servicemen informed about the church activities by sending them the church bulletin or special news clippings.

Don't let the young men and women serving our country be "forgotten." Place their names high on your prayer list.

DECEPTION OF THE LAST DAYS

By Jack W. Simmons

Fairfax, Virginia

AT THE TIME of this incident, Jesus was sitting upon the Mount of Olives. Previously, He and His disciples had departed from the temple in Jerusalem. As the disciples called His attention to the building of the temple, Jesus replied, "There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." (He was referring to the destruction of Jerusalem.) They asked, "When shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" Jesus said, "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

What is the meaning of His words, "Many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ"? He does not say they would come saying they were the Christ, but that "I am the Christ." Christ is saying, "They will come acknowledging me as the Messiah, the Anointed of God, and outwardly they will seem to be messengers of Christ."

This thought is substantiated by Christ's words "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22, 23).

These were not true servants of Christ, but were of those that hold the truth in unrighteousness (Romans 1:18). Intermingling false doctrine with the true Word of God, they sow tares among the wheat (Matthew 13:25). Paul warned the church at Ephesus that after his departure this kind would arise among them, not sparing the flock, but would speak perverse things

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you," Matthew 24:4.

to draw away disciples after them (Acts 20:29).

Already, in Paul's time, men arose trying to impose the law upon the saints, teaching that believers were to be circumcised according to the law of Moses, making the cross of none effect, bringing them again into bondage from which they had been delivered. Again writing to the Ephesians, Paul said, "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Ephesians 4:14).

AS THE NEED was for steadfastness in Paul's day, so is the need in our own day. The nations of the world are distressed with perplexity. They are not sure about the continuation of civilization. Nations, families, and individuals seem to be in a state of great unrest. The words of the angel to the prophet Daniel have their fulfillment in our day. He said, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Daniel 12:4). This verse has its application spiritually, as well as literally. We know that multitudes are seeking a satisfaction in the riches, cares, and pleasures of this life. Sooner or later, they find these things never give peace to the soul.

Even some Christians are in a state of unrest in their own minds. They go about from church to church, hoping to find something to give satisfaction. Neglecting their own church and pastor, they run to and fro, receiving any and every doctrine that is preached. Seeking signs and wonders, "they are reeds

shaken with the wind, clouds carried with the tempest." The writer of Hebrews warns us not to "be carried about with divers (different) and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats" (Hebrews 13:9).

It seems to me that people are looking to man to give them the things which God alone can give. I read of a man who traveled two thousand miles to hear a minister speak and to receive something spiritual from God. After hearing the minister, the man was disappointed, returned home, humbled himself before God, and received the desire of his heart. His disappointment was God's appointment. Man is so apt to change and wander from his steadfastness in the Lord, following the trend and tide of the world. Therein lies the danger of "being led away with the error of the wicked" (2 Peter 3:17), and falling from our steadfastness.

We live in a changing world, but God remains the same. With Him there is "no variableness, neither shadow of turning." "I am the Lord, I change not: therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." God's Word is our assurance. Nations, kingdoms, and powers shall crumble. Even the heavens and earth shall pass away with a noise, but God's Word abideth forever. "The foundation of God standeth sure" (2 Timothy 2:19).

Speaking to Peter, Christ said that His church would be built upon a rock and the gates of hell should not prevail against it. The Church has stood through the storms and trials of life. Suffering the attacks of Satan, it remains triumphant in Christ Jesus. It will continue to triumph, for Isaiah said, "A man shall be as a hiding place from the wind (false doctrine), and a covert from the

tempest (trials and afflictions); as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land" (Isaiah 32:2). None of these things can move or separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, so long as we cling to Him.

GENERALLY speaking, things will not improve until Christ comes again. We are not to look, as some teach, for the conversion of the world to usher in the millennial reign of Christ. According to the Scriptures, it will be the opposite. "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13). "There shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?" (2 Peter 3:3, 4). False teachers shall arise among God's people "who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, . . . And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of" (2 Peter 2:1, 2).

These teachers are undoubtedly the modernists of today. They deny Christ's deity. They deny His saving blood. They deny the resurrection. They deny His second coming.

By these denials, the devil will deceive many in the last days. "If the blind lead the blind, they shall both fall into a ditch." These are they who enter not into the kingdom of God, and try to prevent others that would enter. Paul speaks of certain ones as "false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ." Then he adds, "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:13, 14).

Outwardly, these false teachers have the appearance of true messengers of God. Clothed in self-righteousness, they worship God with their lips, but their hearts are far from Him. They fast, they pray, they give alms, but only for the sake of appearance unto other men. Jesus said, "Such have their reward."

These false teachers and prophets will come as wolves in sheep's

clothing. They come for no other reason than for to deceive, scatter, and kill. They come to destroy the flock.

To deceive, these false prophets will use parts of Holy Writ. They will sow corrupt seed among the incorruptible which, in time, will infest the soul, and will manifest itself in unbelief and wicked living.

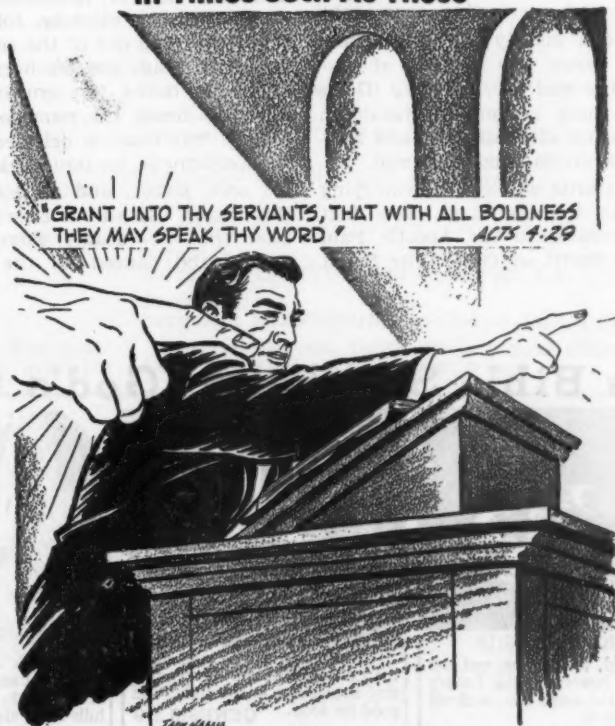
This has always been the devil's mode and always will be. "He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth." Lifting himself up in pride, he influenced a multitude of the angels of God and they were all cast out of heaven. As he did then, he is doing today. By deception, he is dragging every soul he can down to everlasting perdition.

The devil's work is manifest in the first book of the Bible. The first seed of corruption was sown in the hearts of our foreparents, Adam and Eve. He began then by saying to the woman, "Yea, hath

God said [using God's own word], Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" A seed of doubt was planted in their hearts which sprung forth in disobedience to God's command and resulted in bringing a curse upon the whole human family.

In like manner, the devil continues his work today. Planting seeds of doubt in the hearts of men and women, he causes them to disbelieve God's eternal truth. Its infallibility and its inspiration are questioned. With this accomplished, faith is weakened and the subject becomes easy prey for deception. God, the judgment, or eternal hell are no longer feared. Being in this state, sin and wickedness abound without any restraint. The heart hardens more and more against God and His Word. Because the Word of God is the only means by which man can be saved, all hope of salvation is gone when it is rejected. "And for this cause God

In Times Such As These



shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:11, 12).

We are saved by believing and receiving God's truth into our heart. "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures" (James 1:18). Again we read, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).

On the other hand, let us look at the other side of the picture. Jesus said, "He that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). There is no other alternative for everyone who rejects God's Word, "But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries" (Hebrews 10:27). Daniel the prophet said, "Many that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

We can clearly see from these latter verses the danger of disbelieving and of rejecting God's Word. Such action will result in souls being eternally lost and subject to everlasting contempt.

Evil spirits will aid in destroying souls in the last days. This fact was revealed to the Apostle Paul by the Spirit of God. "The Spirit

speakeeth expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith (doctrine of Christ), giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1). No doubt this departing from the faith or doctrine of God's Word—such things as the virgin birth of Christ, His diety, the atoning blood, the new birth, sanctified lives, the Holy Ghost baptism, the resurrection, Christ's glorious return, and many other things which we believe and cherish.

Men and women alike will be seduced and deceived by these demons who cause them to give heed to doctrines of devils, for "they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Timothy 4:4). These evil spirits will work and operate in individuals. John said, "Try the spirits, whether they are of God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."

It will be one of the many false prophets who will be a co-worker with the anti-Christ in the last days and will deceive multitudes and damn them for eternity. John saw a beast rise up out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. The beast is believed to be the anti-Christ, an individual given his seat, power, and authority by the dragon (Satan). It is explained later that his deadly wound was healed and caused all the world

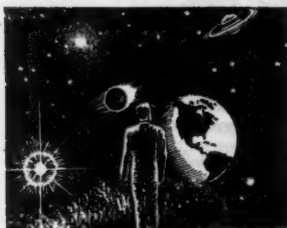
to wonder after the beast and to worship him.

He will continue forty-two months, but will come to an end at the revelation of Christ to earth. He shall be consumed with the Spirit of the Lord's mouth, and destroyed by the brightness of His coming (2 Thessalonians 2:8).

John saw a lamb-like beast coming up out of the earth, which is also a false prophet and co-worker with the anti-Christ. He will resemble Christ, or will try to. He will appear as a meek, humble, innocent lamb, but inwardly will be a ravening wolf. He will work signs and wonders which will greatly influence numbers and deceive them into worshiping the beast, his image, and the dragon. One of his many wonders will be to cause fire to come down from heaven in the sight of men. Then he will urge them that dwell upon the earth to make an image to the beast to be worshiped. Life, and the power to speak, will be given unto the image. A refusal to bow down and worship will bring the sentence of death. On the other hand, those who obey, "the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God" (Revelation 14:10).

Let each of us as individuals live true to God and His Word, praying always that our hearts will not be deceived and that we "may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:36).

The Bible Speaks on "God's Creation"

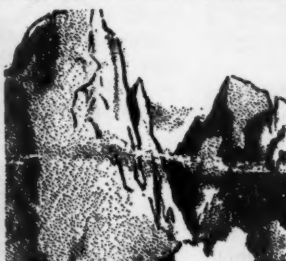


DEUTERONOMY 10:14

Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.



And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food. **GENESIS 2:9**



In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. **PSALM 95:4**



The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD. **PSALM 33:5**

A SPECIAL ARTICLE TO PROMOTE
THE OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL
YOUTH WEEK - APRIL 17-23



Youth in Action

THE CHURCH MUST USE ITS youth or lose them. "What is the number-one problem confronting youth?" was a question presented to a group of young people attending a summer youth camp. "The apathy of adult members of the congregation to the church's youth program" was the answer given by youth. Adults must see the *condition* of this young generation—thousands never introduced to Jesus Christ, and a steady stream of church youth who are lost to the church when they reach teen years.

J. Edgar Hoover said, "Our generation of youth will be remembered as the betrayed generation, betrayed by its elders."

National Youth Week has been instituted to challenge youth to face the moral and spiritual battles in life courageously through Christ, to determine to serve the Lord as good soldiers, according to His will and to witness without shame or fear to the powerful gospel of God.

National Youth Week is a time when the church is alerted to the needs and potential of its youth. It provides opportunity for youth to discover and participate in many areas of service.

Conserve your own young people and salvage precious youths from the rubbish heap of sin and purposeless living.

National Youth Week this year will be observed April 17-23.

PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE YOU

- The theme of Youth Week this year, "Surrender to God," is illustrated by the materials available

in the youth week packet. The theme song is "I Surrender All."

- Planning sessions are as important as the week itself in developing leadership.
- Let the youth of the church plan, promote, and produce programs for the week under the guidance of competent leaders. Do not make the mistake of doing it all for them.
- Remind each committee that the program and its promotion must be constantly "wrapped up" in prayers to be spiritually effective.
- Every young person regularly attending the church should be active on some committee.

Special committees are organized to function in planning, promotion, programming, visitation, welcoming, music, and social activity.

TOPICS TO GUIDE YOU

- Monday
Surrender GOALS to God—Phil. 3:13, 14
- Tuesday
Surrender TALENTS to God—Matt. 25:20, 21
- Wednesday
Surrender EMOTIONS to God—Isa. 26:3
- Thursday
Surrender TIME to God—Eph. 5:16
- Friday
Surrender ENERGY to God—Col. 3:23, 24
- Saturday
Surrender THOUGHTS to God—Phil. 4:8
- Sunday
Surrender EVERYTHING to God—1 Tim. 4:12

Observe National Youth Week in your church. Send for a free Youth Week Packet today!

TO: National Sunday School and Youth Department
1080 Montgomery Avenue
Cleveland, Tennessee

Please send us the free YOUTH WEEK Packet _____.

Please send _____ copies of "Surrender" (youth devotional book for YOUTH WEEK).—Price: 15c per copy; \$2.50 for 20 copies; or \$5.00 for 50 copies.

Please send _____ Teen-Age Evangelism Tilt Top Boxes. Price: 5c each. Includes attractive Tilt Top Box with 5 teen-age tracts.

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Signed _____



revivals

Great Revival at Northwest Bible College

The Holy Spirit in revival measure was recently poured out on the students and faculty of Northwest Bible College in Minot, North Dakota. The outpouring was marked by much prayer and a renewal of concern for the lost. The prayer meetings which are regularly held before the retiring hour were sometimes extended into the morning hours. Some students also arose well before daylight because of the call to prayer sounding loudly in their souls.

Many testified to the renewal of victory in their personal lives and others testified to experiences never before attained. Some said it was the greatest visitation of the Lord that they had ever seen at the school. Brother L. O. Vaught, Vice-president of the College, preached under a mighty anointing of the Spirit. On the final day of the revival both faculty and students were so exercised in the Spirit that the afternoon found them still reluctant to leave the hallowed Presence which had so forcefully been manifested.

The mark of revival is continuing with early morning prayer meetings and renewed meaning in the chapel services. We express thanks to God and to our many friends whose prayers have been going up in our behalf.

—Reporter

Effects of Revival Still Felt

OZARK, Ala.—We want to sound the trumpets for our Almighty God. We recently closed a 4-week revival in which He greatly blessed. There were 35 saved, 20 sanctified, 19 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 9 baptized in water, and 17 added to the church.

Rev. Clay Cantrell of Dallas, Georgia, was our evangelist and God richly blessed us through his ministry. Since Brother R. C. Miller came to pastor our church, we have been blessed. We are moving forward for God through his leadership. We have learned to love and appreciate Brother and Sister Miller.

On the third Sunday of the revival \$600 was pledged on the Church's indebtedness.

We still feel the effects of a very spiritual revival and are looking forward to God blessing us more and more in the months to come. Pray for us that God will continue to smile upon us.

—William F. Johnson, clerk

Revival Spirit Remains After Evangelist Leaves

COCOA, Fla.—“Rejoice with me,” Luke 15:6, 9. These are the words of a shepherd who found his lost sheep and a woman who found her lost coin. They are also fitting for the Cocoa Church of God for we have been able to find some that were lost.

Brother Eugene Haas recently conducted us a 2-week revival. God blessed us nightly in a wonderful way. At the end of the 2 weeks, there had been 18 saved, 5 sanctified and 5 filled with the Holy Ghost. The last Sunday he was with us was a wonderful day. Sixty-seven were baptized in water. When the opportunity was given for church membership, the spirit of conviction moved as though an invitation had been given for people to find Christ. Thirty-five were added to the church.

At the end of the 2 weeks Brother Haas had to leave, but thank God the revival did not leave. We continued through Wednesday night. Brother O'Neil McCullough came along and preached for us on Monday night. A backslider prayed through to the Holy Ghost. On Tuesday night we had no preaching. On Wednesday night Brother Ernest Bryan preached and a 72-year-old man found God.

The following Sunday we had 2 blessed services. When opportunity for membership was given, 8 more were added to the great Church of God. This gave us a total of 43 new members of which only 4 were transfers.

Since we have come to Cocoa, there has been a net gain of 70 members. We give God all the glory! For the month of November we broke all our Sunday School records with an average of 201. So again we say, “Rejoice with me.” God has been marvelous. For this we are thankful.

—Ralph Miller, pastor

Church Greatly Blessed

ADAIRSVILLE, Ga.—The Erwin Hill Church of God was recently favored with a message from Reverend Ray H. Hughes, President of Lee College. The Lord showered us with a Holy Ghost blessing and with a wonderful altar service.

The afternoon service was great, also. In spite of the rain, the house was full; and while it rained on the outside, it rained the blessings of the Lord on the inside. We are praying and looking for a great revival in the near future.

—Joe P. Gibson, pastor

Great Outpouring of God's Spirit

PIEDMONT, S. C.—We recently closed a two-week revival at the Piedmont Church of God with the Rev. James T. Shealy, Jr., as the evangelist. God blessed us wonderfully during this revival. There were 21 saved, 11 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost and 10 added to the church. We thank the Lord for a great outpouring of His Spirit and for all the blessings received in this revival.

Brother Shealy is a faithful worker and will bless any church. We recommend him to any pastor as a young evangelist who is on fire for the Lord.

—Rev. E. J. Morgan, pastor

God's Spirit Moves in Evangelistic Campaign

SANFORD, Fla.—A mighty move of God's Spirit was experienced at the Sanford, Florida, Church of God in a three-week evangelistic campaign with Grady Luke as the evangelist. Thirty-six were saved and sanctified and three were filled with the Holy Ghost. On the closing day of the revival, fifteen were baptized in water, and eleven new members were added to the church. The effects of the meeting were glorious as God met with us in a marvelous manner each night. Numerous instances of healing were experienced in the revival.

We would highly recommend this man of God to any congregation as one who works, prays and believes God for the salvation of souls.

The Sunday School attendance record at the church was broken one Sunday with a 235 figure, breaking the old 230.

One young man converted in the revival, decided to go to Lee College for the second term and is

there now preparing himself for Christian service.

—G. D. Boatwright, pastor

Thankful for Wonderful Power of God

TAMPA, Fla.—The East Tampa Church of God began a revival at the New Year's Eve Watch-night service (December 31, 1960), with Brother and Sister Carl L. White as the evangelists. They are truly a blessing here.

We are thankful for the wonderful power of God we have in each service, for the Christian love and fellowship felt and the blessings received. There have been 12 saved, 10 sanctified, 9 baptized with the

Holy Ghost and 11 added to the church.

The revival is still in progress. We trust that many more souls will be blessed and added to the church for the glory of God.

—Alton W. Jones, clerk

Old-fashioned Revival at Mt. Olive

CLEVELAND, Tenn.—The Mount Olive Church of God has been praying and seeking God for an old-fashioned, soul-stirring revival for some time. After much prayerful consideration, the Rev. Elmer Barbary, pastor of the Pine Hill Church of God in Cleveland, was chosen as the evangelist. A better

choice could not have been made. Each night Bro. Barbary, filled with the power of the Holy Ghost, preached the gospel and declared the whole council of God.

The church was revived, backsliders were reclaimed and a number blessed. Fifteen were saved, 7 sanctified, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, 9 baptized in water, and 5 added to the church. Some of the elderly people said this was the best revival they have had at Mount Olive in several years.

I highly recommend Brother Barbary to any church. He will bless your church and certainly help the pastor. Pray for us here at Mount Olive.

—J. L. Underwood, pastor



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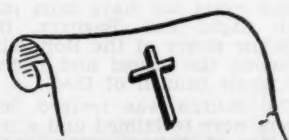
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testimonies

Testifies of God's Glory

BRAGG CITY, Mo.—As I was reading the *Evangelist*, I noticed a page of testimonies; so I decided that I would send a written testimony in hopes that it would be printed because they are really encouraging.

At the age of 9 I fell and hurt my back. I couldn't lift anything or stay bent over any length of time because I would faint. The doctors told me that there was nothing they could do for such an injury.

I promised God that if He would heal me, I would testify for His glory. I was instantly healed.

—Mrs. Donnie Plunkett

Healed Instantly

DELHI, La.—I truly love the Lord and praise His blessed name with all my heart. I praise Him for what He has done for me. He has healed me several times this year. I had heart trouble, kidney trouble, a nervous condition and high blood pressure. Recently, I asked my pastor, Brother John W. Temple, and Brother Irvin Temple to pray for me when I was suffering. I was healed at once. Praise God for His healing power.

—Mattie McKenzie

Church Progressing Spiritually and Numerically

MILWAUKEE, Wisc.—We in Milwaukee want to let everyone know how the Lord has blessed us here. We recently closed a wonderful revival with Brother Carl Hart from Flat River, Missouri, as the evangelist. Brother Hart was a great blessing to all of us. The messages were real food to our souls. Both the young as well as the old were blessed through his messages. There were 14 saved, 9 sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost and 6 added to the church.

The Lord is wonderful to us. The folks are really on fire. The L.W.—

W.B. is back at work again. The Sunday School averaged more in the month of December than in the history of the church. We are looking forward to the day we can move into a bigger building. We all feel that the Lord has much in store for us.

We give God all the praise and honor for our good pastor and his family. We have learned to love them very much. We feel that the Lord knew what was needed here when Brother and Sister Wiggins came to our church. We give the Lord all the praise for everything.

Please pray for us. We need your prayers.

—Ernestine Hansel, reporter

Church Experiences Glorious Revival

TARPON SPRINGS, Fla.—The month of November was one of the most glorious in the history of the Tarpon Springs Church of God. The spirit of revival was already here and 6 were saved, 4 were sanctified and 4 were baptized with the Holy Ghost before Brother and Sister Herbert Branham, evangelists, arrived. During the 3-week revival there were 27 saved, 10 sanctified and 10 filled with the Holy Ghost. Seven were baptized in water and 10 were added to the church. This gives us much for which to be thankful.

—G. W. Hodges, pastor

Pastor Praises God for Holy Ghost Outpouring

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—The Burlington Church of God, Knoxville, Tennessee, recently closed one of the most successful and outstanding revivals in many years. The numerical results do not come close to describing the full results of this revival. However, there were 12 saved or rededicated, 8 sanctified and 8 filled with the Holy Ghost. Each of those filled with the Holy Ghost was a church mem-

ber so the results of this revival will continue to multiply as others are won to the Lord.

The Holy Ghost worked in this revival as I have never seen Him work, and I have been attending the Church of God since infancy. Much praise must be given to our evangelist, Mrs. Frances Odell Waggoner of Lenoir City, Tennessee. Her dependence upon God and the holy boldness given her by the Holy Ghost were most outstanding. Should Jesus tarry His coming, she will return to our church in the summer of 1961, for we feel her ministry was not finished at our church.

—Rev. Jackie G. Bridges, pastor

God's Power Mightily Manifested

ALAMO, Ga.—A great revival recently closed at the Alamo Church of God. The power of the Lord was manifested in a great and mighty way each night. There were 25 saved, 16 sanctified, 12 filled with the Holy Ghost, 16 added to the church, and a number healed by the power of God.

Sister Ruby Nelson was the evangelist and Rev. W. M. Simmons is our pastor.

—Reporter

Church Blessed

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss.—I would like to report a recent revival with Rev. Joe Kelly as the evangelist. There were 9 saved, 5 sanctified and 2 filled with the Holy Ghost. The church was really blessed and we all have a greater desire to work for God. Pray for us at Bay St. Louis to be a real lighthouse for God.

—Mrs. Samantha Holden, reporter

God Performs "Operation Without Knife"

BONNE TERRE, Mo.—I want to express a word of testimony of God's wonderful healing power. Truly, the day of miracles is not over.

I had been sick for 3 years and had been in hospitals 15 times during that 3 years. I live in California, but was reared in Bonne Terre, Missouri, where I am a member of the Church of God. Rev. Andy Holdman is the pastor. I felt as though I should be healed if I could go and have Brother Holdman and the good people pray for me. For 3 years I vomited every bite I ate or drank. I had to go to the hospital every 3 months and be fed glucose. That is all that kept me going.

The night I was healed I was ready to go to the hospital for a

very serious stomach operation. My sister felt that we should have prayer before I left, so she called Brother and Sister Holdman who, along with my mother and dad and sister and brother-in-law, prayed for 1 hour and 15 minutes. While they were praying, Brother Holdman put his hand on my stomach and something broke loose in my side and I felt it move up. I vomited again. Then Brother Holdman prayed that it would go back the other way and it began to go down. I could feel a movement in my stomach and heard it gurgling. Brother Holdman said, "Clyde, I feel your stomach (which had collapsed) opening up." At that moment I had to let my belt out two holes. That night I ate before I went to bed and have eaten anything I want ever since. I just can't begin to praise the Lord enough. I had gone down to 94 pounds. I have had my healing less than 2 weeks and I already weigh 115 pounds. After God performed the miracle, or as Brother Holdman said, "an operation without a knife," the devil afflicted my legs so that I couldn't get around by myself. We had prayer again and I can walk just as good as I ever did.

After my legs were healed, I took a virus and high fever. This caused me to be delirious and it seemed my mind snapped for 3 days and nights. My folks and Brother and Sister Holdman stayed with me day and night. I hadn't spoken in tongues since I had received the Holy Ghost years ago and I had a desire for a refilling. While we were praying, God gave me a refilling and I walked the floor and preached the gospel.

I feel that God has a work for me to do, so please pray that I will do exactly what He wants me to do. He has done so much for me.

—Clyde Byington

God Heals Many Times

HOMERVILLE, Ga.—My Lord has been so good to me. He has healed me so many times that I promised to send a testimony to the *Evangel*. I had bad health for several years and the Lord healed me many times, but I didn't really start living for Him until about 3 years ago. Since I received the Holy Ghost, I have felt like a different person. Thank the Lord!

I am so glad we have Someone to look to with that mighty power when we are in need. I am glad I learned to trust in Him more when He healed my husband of kidney trouble after he had suffered several years.

Pray for me to be always in God's will. —Mrs. Lawton Smith

God Visits Church in Special Way

LONG BEACH, Calif.—We the Church of God at Long Beach, California, want to give God the praise, honor and glory for what He did for us Sunday, December 11. As each saint of God entered the church, they felt the loving Spirit of God. It was as if God was going to do something special, and He did.

Our Bible teacher, Sister Seays, told the class how she felt God's love and that He was in our midst to give us a special blessing. God poured out His Spirit in a marvelous way. My, how the saints and sinners were blessed.

There was weeping and shouting all over the congregation. One sister rose to her feet weeping and told how God had moved on her heart to give \$100 for the new building which the church had started. The work on the new building had come to a halt as far as finance was concerned. God marvelously took over. People opened up their hearts and purses and gave with love. Some of the men didn't even have a job, but they put their faith in God believing. My, the praises and glory of God came as a rushing, mighty wind. The amount raised that morning was \$525 and more was given at the Sunday night service. The entire amount carried to the bank Monday morning was \$602.85. We give God all the praise, honor and glory.

We thank God for a pastor and wife like Brother and Sister James E. Marks. They work so faithfully with their flock and make sure that none strays from the fold. They are workers, not quitters. Thank God for His love and tender care.

—Lillian Dook, member

Trusts God for Complete Healing

ALABAMA CITY, Ala.—I have been reading the *Evangel* for 34 years. I have trusted God for the healing of my body. Many times I have wanted to send in a testimony, but I never have. Now I feel that I must.

I became ill the first of January, 1960. I still trusted God for my healing, but got so bad that my people finally called a doctor without asking me. I was in bed for 13 weeks, and once I was given up for dead.

One night I prayed for God to give me a good night's rest without my having to take an easing tablet. God came to my rescue. Bless His wonderful name. I slept all night, that night and for 7 months I wasn't bothered. But Satan was determined to keep me down. One thing after another developed. Finally, they said that

I had cancer and they could do nothing for me.

I am still trusting God because He has helped me so much. Many nights I coughed until I became so weak I could not walk across the room. My lungs are much better. For three nights I have not coughed through the night. I am not well, but I am still trusting God for complete healing. Please pray for me.

—Bessie Adams

"Nothing Is Impossible With the Lord"

COCOA, Fla.—We want to thank God for the many blessings which He has bestowed upon us. We promised the Lord that we would testify through the *Evangel* if He would bless our home with children.

After 5 years of praying, we have been blessed with a little boy and girl. Nothing is impossible with the Lord. Praise His name!

8Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. McRae

Testifies of God's Healing Power

COMANCHE, Okla.—We want to praise God for the many times He has healed in our family. Our baby and 4-year-old son have been touched by Him. We want to tell everyone of His great healing power and most of all of His saving and keeping power.

Pray for us that we will always exalt Him. —Mrs. W. A. Casteel

Thanks God

MURPHY, N. C. — I want to thank the Lord first of all for redeeming me, sanctifying me, and baptizing me with the Holy Ghost. Next, I want to thank Him that I was led to the great Church of God. I love the fellowship that exists among our members.

My grandmother fell about 3 weeks ago and fractured one of her ribs. She suffered terribly. I wrote to Brother H. D. Williams and requested prayer for her. Now she is much better.

I was suffering with arthritis and some days I was terribly ill. On Sunday morning my pastor, Rev. S. W. Leonard, prayed for me. Not being satisfied, I was prayed for again on Sunday night. That time I felt delivered.

Please pray for me to be faithful to God and His Church.

—Clinton R. Brendle

The real space news is that Jesus will come again from outer space—from heaven.—THE CHRISTIAN PARENT, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.



Easter Plays and Programs

EASTER HELPER NO. 61

New selections for all Sunday School departments: Primary, Beginners, Juniors and Intermediates. There are 32 pages of poems, recitations, special exercises. Includes modern playlet for two older girls; an outstanding reading which gives new meaning and concept to the legend of the Easter Bunny; a short Easter exercise for four older students: one boy and three girls; and an exceptionally fine sketch concerning the events of Holy Week, using a Reader and characters portraying Judas, Pilate, the Centurion, Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary. Price, 40c

THE EASTER SPIRIT

By Rega Kramer McCarty

Time: 15 to 20 minutes. A play in one act about a Sunday School class of young girls that started a crusade to make Easter happier for several less-fortunate residents of their city. Mrs. Moody, a lame elderly widow, is one of the recipients. Requires two adult women and four girls.

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UNWASHED HANDS

An Easter Play

By Pearl Neilson

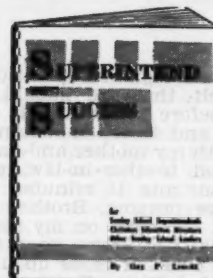
In five scenes, this play contains the trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ. Beginning with the appearance of Jesus before Pilate, the actual Biblical setting of these events is integrated very skillfully by the supporting roles of Pilate's wife and her maid.

Claudia, Pilate's wife, becomes increasingly interested in the Lord; and Fidella, her maid, a follower of His, continues to interest her in Him. Pilate, from the time of his handing over of Jesus in place of Barabbas, is troubled by the crime he has committed. Each time the subject of Jesus is brought up to Pilate his mental anguish increases. He is unable to wash his hands of the blood of this innocent man and he is continually plagued by UNWASHED HANDS. Performance time: One hour.

Send for your examination copy today.

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